

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of	) Attorney Docket No.: <b>AIBARA0003</b>
Hideaki KIKO	) Confirmation No.: Unknown
	)
Serial No.: Unassigned	) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
	)
Filed: August 2, 2006	) Examiner: Unassigned
	)
For: VIRTUAL COMMUNITY SYSTEM	) Date: August 2, 2006

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (A)**

**MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT**

United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee, and preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the application identified above as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.